

## Academy Council Meets

The Academy Council met in the Department of Family Medicine at Wits on 14 and 15 May 1996. This was our first meeting as a full Council together with Peter Cusins our new CEO. The meeting was characterised by a renewed determination to promote 'Quality Health Care through Quality Education'.

Much time was spent discussing: 'A Way Ahead' the planning document Peter Cusins had produced and that has been discussed at various meetings at branches and in the regions. The most important issues for our future development as an Academy is to be circulated in two documents. One will be on our policy regarding Vocational Training that we hope to complete and distribute widely by the middle of April.

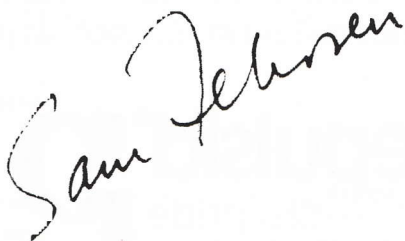
The second document is to explain the suggested restructuring of the Council. This will be circulated to regions and branches for comment and will serve at our next AGM for final decision. In essence we wish to have a smaller National Council to reduce costs of

meetings and thereby make more frequent meetings possible. At the same time we wish to create and strengthen Provincial Councils in the place of our previous Regional Committees that have in many instances functioned more like branches than regions in the past. It is hoped that this development will spread the work of the Academy to a larger number of people and help towards better communication within the Academy.

The successful completion of our first national examination was discussed at length. We are having a graduation ceremony for the 18 successful candidates of the first examination at the 10th Family Practitioner's Congress in Grahamstown in September. The candidates will be awarded the FAFP(SA), (Fellow of the Academy of Family Physicians - South Africa). The next examination is to be held in November. Details will be advertised in May.

Remember, it is time to get registered for the Family Practitioner's Congress. September is around the corner and leave and locum arrangements have to be made. Scholarships are available for doctors working for lower than normal incomes, especially those serving patients in needy areas. The theme of 'The Constant Carer' is to be addressed by excellent speakers.

See you there!



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